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Complete if Known	
Application Number	10/676,327-Conf. #6524
Filing Date	September 30, 2003
First Named Inventor	Minoru Takatsuka
Art Unit	3763
Examiner Name	T. J. Stigell
Attorney Docket Number	09871/0200096-US0

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Document Number	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number-Kind Code ² (if known)			
TS	AA*	US-5,180,371-A	01-19-1993	Spinello	
	AB*	US-5,681,286-A	10-28-1997	Niehoff	
	AC*	US-4,345,595-A	08-24-1982	Whitney et al.	
	AD*	US-6,159,161-A	12-12-2000	Hodosh	
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FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T ³
		Country Code ⁴ -Number ⁵ -Kind Code ⁶ (if known)				
TS	BA	EP-1 186 311-A2	03-13-2002	Smiths Group plc		
↓	BB	RU-2 012 359 ⁽¹³⁾ -C1		1994-05		
BC	RU-959792			1982-09		

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. ¹Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ²See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 801.04. ³Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.18 if possible. ⁶Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials	Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	T ²
TS	CA	Partial European Search Report for EP 03 02 1218 completed October 17, 2005.	
↓	CB	English translation of Office Action for 2003129096/14(031097).	

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

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Theodore J. Stigell

Date Considered

3/10/06